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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. KIRK).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 23, 2004.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MARK STEVEN KIRK to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Reverend Betsy Singleton, Pastor, Quapaw Quarter United Methodist Church, Little Rock, Arkansas, offered the following prayer:

God, this time of year, in this particular year, when hometown fairs are judging jams and bannered booths tout candidates with free bumper stickers, we hold our opinions fervently, our convictions with less compromise, each vote with care.

We confess that we are a people of preferences, each as unique as squares on a blue ribbon quilt stitched together by someone who favored cotton print over synthetics.

Daily, God, there are choices in this democracy, choices that lead us to debate, delay, exhaustion, hope. And then, together, we speak for the people who send us to represent them, the ones who, last weekend, got together in that small American town we call "Home"—the fireman, the teacher, the homemaker, the beauty queen, the clown, the cowboy—and held the annual parade down Main Street, because out of many, they believe we really are one.

Today, God, may we be one. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SKELTON led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING THE REVEREND BETSY SINGLETON

(Mr. SNYDER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SNYDER. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege today to welcome today's guest chaplain, Reverend Betsy Singleton from the Quapaw Quarter United Methodist Church in Little Rock, Arkansas, a position she has held for the last 3 years. This is my home church and Betsy is my minister. She is also my wife.

Reverend Singleton, Betsy, welcome to the House. Thank you so much.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair desires to make an announcement.

After consultation with the majority and minority leaders, and with their consent and approval, the Chair announces that during the joint meeting to hear an address by His Excellency

Ayad Allawi, Interim Prime Minister of the Republic of Iraq, only the doors immediately opposite the Speaker and those on his right and left will be open.

No one will be allowed on the floor of the House who does not have the privilege of the floor of the House.

Due to the large attendance that is anticipated, the Chair feels the rule regarding the privilege of the floor must be strictly adhered to.

Children of Members will not be permitted on the floor, and the cooperation of all Members is requested.

The practice of reserving seats prior to the joint meeting by placard will not be allowed. Members may reserve their seats by physical presence only following the security sweep of the Chamber.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of Wednesday, September 15, 2004, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 5 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

During the recess, beginning at about 9:50 a.m., the following proceedings were had:

□ 0950

JOINT MEETING OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE TO HEAR AN ADDRESS BY HIS EXCELLENCY AYAD ALLAWI, INTERIM PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF IRAQ

The Speaker of the House presided.

The Assistant to the Sergeant at Arms, Bill Sims, announced the Vice President and Members of the U.S. Senate who entered the Hall of the House of Representatives, the Vice President taking the chair at the right

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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